THE BACON BANJO COMPANY, INC.

GROTON, CONNECTICUT

B & D SILVER BELL BANJOS

•

NEW MODEL BACON & DAY GUITARS and MANDOLINS

•

B & D Super Strings

4/16/40

A. P. Sharpe
B.B.C.
London W. D.

Dear Mr Sharpe: Your letter received some time ago addressed to Mr. Fred V. Bacon had been mislaid and sorry to send you a somewhat belated reply.

I am forwarding this to him in the State of Vermont where he has been for some two years - since 1932 - where he has been teaching in local communities & gives three or four Festival Concerts a year with about 50 players - mostly banjos - He is the outstanding 5 string banjo soloist of our country playing with the fingers and has appeared in all parts of the United States - I you will no doubt hear from him in reply to the questions you ask although some of his old time friends say they do not hear from him very much - no doubt with his work arranging, teaching &c he does not have much time with other duties to attend to same -

I usually call on him once a year and we have a nice get together and talk — I usually travel two trips a year about 1500 miles west from here meeting the different players and teachers on the various cities but not have done this for past 2 yrs. or so — always a pleasure to see them Roy Smeck, Stephen Sr. & Jr. John Charles Pathaus. Charles Rothermel. Wm. C. Stahl. Walter Holt Giuseppe Fettine - Pres. of the American Guild of B. M. & G — Frank Bradbury — so many years a String banjo soloist at Guild Conventions — in fact last 4 yrs. Again this year in Cincinnati Ohio Joseph Eggitola the Guilds able Sec — and many others — also should mention C. W. Gould & Hank Karch - the latter being the Guild's Convention Mgr. for 1936 — Happen to have a somewhat marred sheet, which I trust you will excuse, of publicity for Mr Gould - also some few years ago 1926 Joseph Cullen (Cullen) of Washington District of Columbia - our National Capitol is one of the first I believe to make a banjo record, it was on a way cylinder Columbia record — Vess Osman Sr. was a later artist whose records for years enjoyed a wonderful popularity - He visited England during the Reign of King Edward & Queen Victoria and was entertained by Royalty - one place being at Royal Regatta off the Isle of Wight.

You probably have named of others who made banjo records and were prominent in the banjo world. Was sorry to learn a short time ago of the passing of Ruby T. Brooks one of the old time artists of the banjo T. Brooks Deutas - New York City. Upstanton Dam pleased to state being with us at this time - another well known Steacher and guitar player Wm. P. Covey - Lowell Massachusetts - last of the members of the Boston Ideal Banjo Mandolin & Guitar Club who toured this country so many years under the guidance of the well known artists Geo. L. Lansing and A. D. Grover - They had so much to do with promoting interest in the plectral instruments - W. T. Pitchener of New York City passed away two years ago -

Will mail you a copy of the S & R Silver Bell Banjo Family - old music published about 1926 which may interest you and has a picture of Mr. Baron and the writer -

We are certainly sorry to know of the great misfortune your country is going through at this time and only hope it may come through victorious so that your good work for the Banjo Mandolin & Guitar may long continue

With my Best Wishes I beg to remain

Yours Very Truly

D. Libby

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Yours very truly

D. Lindy

DAVID L. DAY. (From *Cadenza" ~~Sept.~~ Oct. 1922.

After being intimately connected with the business of making banjos for thirty-nine years, and holding an active business association of eighteen years with the well-known Vega Co., of Boston, Mr. D. L. Day has resigned his position with this firm and accepted that of vice president and general manager of the Bacon Banjo Co., Inc., of Groton, Connecticut - manufacturers of the "Bacon" banjos and mandolin and ukulele products. The firm was originally founded by Frederick J. Bacon, the man long known to all fretted instrumentalists as a noted solo banjoist.

One week after graduation from school, young David embarked in business as an errand boy, office sweeper and doer of general odd jobs with the old Boston banjo concern, Fairbanks & Cole Co., many years ago - just how "many" we don't know and it was too delicate a question to put personally to D.L. At the time when he attached ~~himself~~ his valuable services as odd-job-boy to the concern the two members of the firm attended to all the factory work, excepting at such times when the junior member (Wm. A. Cole), then considered quite a banjoist, was occupied with his teaching. In 1892 Mr. Cole retired from the firm and the name was changed to A. C. Fairbanks & Co., with its factory located on Columbus Avenue, from 1892 to 1894.

In 1894 Mr. Fairbanks also retired from the business, the controlling interests of the old firm then being acquired by Messrs Dodge & Cummings who again changed the name to that of the A. C. Fairbanks Co., Inc. Up to the time of the last change Mr. Fairbanks had acted as travelling man for the firm, but upon his retirement the position seemed naturally to "descend" to Mr. Day. It was during all these years with the firm that Day gained his valuable experience in manufacturing and assembling, and later a thorough ~~knowledge~~ acquaintanceship with the "trade" throughout the country - a valuable asset which he never lost.

D. L. Day remained with A. C. Fairbanks Co., Inc., until 1904, in which year a very destructive fire completely destroyed the new quarters on Washington Street that the firm had then ocupied for four years. In the adjustment following the fire, arrangements were consummated whereby the control of the Fairbanks business was taken over by the Vega Company, with which firm Mr. Day has remained as sales manager, traveling representative, and advertising factor up to the date of his present connection with the Bacon Banjo Company.

Ob Sept. 18th last, after eighteen years of active service with the same concern, Mr. Day officially assumed the duties of his new position.

To my Pupil, Miss Elsie M. Jerome K. Jerome.

RÊVE DE PRINTEMPS.

Pizzicato.

G. SGALLARI.

BANJO.

Moderato.

mf trem. *pp* *rall* *molto* *al* ⊕ *Coda*

TRIO.

pp *rall.* *molto* *stentato* *pp* ⊕ *Coda.* *𝄋 to* ⊕ *then Coda* *pp rall. e dim.*

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